

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A process for nucleic acid delivery to a cell, comprising:
 - a) preparing a nucleic acid molecule having an expressible sequence;
 - b) associating a compound with a nucleic acid modifying agent
 - b) c) attaching a ~~the~~ compound modifying agent to the nucleic acid molecule within the expressible sequence, ~~utilizing a modifying chemical attachment at a ratio of less than 1 modification per 100 base pairs~~; and,
 - e) d) delivering the nucleic acid to a cell wherein expression of the expressible sequence is expressed greater than 50% of the level of expression obtained from the expressible sequence not having a modifying chemical attachment.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) The process of claim 2 1 wherein the compound comprises a nucleic acid transfer enhancing signal.
4. The process of claim 3 wherein the nucleic acid transfer enhancing signal is selected from the group consisting of a nuclear localizing signal, a ligand that binds a receptor, and a releasing signal.
5. A process of claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from a group of consisting of an enhanced immune response molecule, an antigen, an antibody, a hapten, a membrane active compound, a peptide, a polymer, a polyion, and a fluorescent compound.
6. A process of claim 1 whereby the compound is attached to the N7 position of guanine.
7. The process of claim 1 wherein step of attaching comprises modifying the nucleic acid using an alkylating molecule.
8. The process of claim 7 wherein the alkylating molecule is selected from the group consisting of a mustard and a 3-membered ring system.
9. The process of claim 8 wherein the mustard is selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen mustard and a sulfur mustard.
10. The process of claim 9 wherein the 3-membered ring system is selected from the group consisting of aziridines, oxiranes, cyclopropyls, and episulfides.
11. The process of claim 9 wherein the nitrogen mustard consists of an R-chloride derivative.
12. The process of claim 7 wherein the 3-membered ring system consists of a CPI moiety.

Claims

13. The process of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid consists of double-stranded and single stranded DNA.
14. A process of claim 1 wherein the step of attaching the compound comprises forming a Lewis acid:Lewis base complex, wherein the Lewis acid is not hydrogen.
15. A process of claim 14 wherein the Lewis acid is a transition metal.
16. A process of claim 15 wherein the Lewis acid is platinum.
17. A process of claim 14 wherein the Lewis base is N7 of guanine.
- 18-33. (withdrawn)
